Demands for formation of New States

1615. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the causes leading to demands for formation on new States within the Indian Union;

(b) the reaction of the Union Government in relation to such demands ; and

(c) whether root causes have been analysed concerning any of such demands and remedies prescribed and acted upon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB) : (a) to (c). The demands for formation of new States generally arise on account of regional imbalances in economic development. The Government of India are of the view that such imbalances in a particular State or region should be tackled through the mechanism of planning and by setting up of suitable regional or local authorities.

Permission to Amnesty International to visit Punjab And Kashmir

1616. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the British Foreign Secretary during his recent visit to India called for the grant of permission to the Amnesty International to visit Punjab and Kashmir ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government's policy is to allow Amnesty International to come to India for private visits and for normal dialouge with the Government.

Infiltration by Foreign Poachers Into Andaman and Nicobar Islands

1617. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases of infiltration by the foreign poachers into the territorial waters of Andaman and Nicobar Islands detected during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of such poachers apprehended and the number of boats/ships seized during the above period;

(c) whether some of those poachers managed to escape after killing Indian policemen;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the corrective measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB) : (a) and (b). The requisite information is as here under:-

	1989	*1990*	*1991*
No. of cases detected	32	47	16
No. of Poachers caught	318	560	163
No. of boats/ships seized	34	50	14